M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1534 Press ~~Mis.~~

13-14.

Dated 26-11-~~19~~ 1857

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 13. Read the following letter from Colonel J. C. BOULDERSON, Commissioner of Police.

(Here enter 19th October 1857, No. 142.*)

No. 14. ORDER THEREON, No. 1554; dated 26th November 1857.

Colonel Boulderson forwards the Police report for 1856, in compliance with the orders of Government contained in Extract Minutes Consultation, No. 386 of the 2nd April last. Twelve tabular statements accompany the Commissioner's letter. A report from the Coroner and a "Statement of Mortality" are also appended.

2. There has been great delay in the submission of this report. For the last two months of the year, the new system (Act XIII of 1856) supervened; and considerable difficulty, it is
Para. 14. stated, arose "out of the division of labor" between the Police and Magisterial authorities, "which was not at first perfectly understood."

3. As the new Police Act has repealed a number of confused "rules, ordinances and regulations," the Government expect that the statements for the present year will be proportionally simplified. They think too, that except in cases where crimes present a very serious
Para. 33. and unusual character, such as the *Nungumbaukum* gang robbery, the details may be materially abridged if not omitted altogether. The copiousness with which the Commissioner has entered into the particulars of each charge has no doubt tended to delay the submission of his letter.

4. In para. 13 the Commissioner alludes to the continuance of pilfering from cargoes on the part of the boatmen, and observes that he despairs of putting a stop to the practice "until an efficient Marine Police is established, to watch and control the boatmen, while plying between the beach and the ships in the roadstead." The Government remark that the project of organizing such a force has long been advocated by them and has now received, under certain conditions, the approval of the Government of India. The whole of the correspondence
Ext. Min. Cons. No. 129, dated 31st March 1857. was referred some months since to the Honorable Company's Solicitor, with instructions to prepare the draft of an Act on the subject. To that call *Mr. Boyson* has not yet responded, but the Government trust he will shortly be in a position to do so.

5. In the meanwhile the Government do not find that the measure suggested by *Mr. Elliot*, the late Superintendent of Police, (vide report for 1855,) has been carried out: viz., "railing off that portion of the beach on which cargo is generally placed for the purposes of exportation and importation." *Colonel Boulderson's* attention was called to this suggestion in Extract Minutes Consultation No. 650, dated 18th June 1856, and he was requested to report on it after communication with the Collector of Sea Customs and the Marine Board. The Government understand that no small portion of the pilfering complained of takes place in the loading and unloading of boats.

6. Para. 78 affords an illustration of the benefits of the *Monegar Choultry*. No less than 113 paupers in the last stage of destitution and 127 idiots were found during the past year in the streets by the Police, and remitted to that Asylum. The Government will bring these pro-
Ext. Min. Cons. No. 1286, dated 11th September 1857. minent facts to the notice of the Governor General in Council, when re-submitting their application for an extension of aid to the *Choultry*.

7. Para. 79. 'Mortuary Returns.' *Colonel Boulderson* will scrutinize these returns in his position of Municipal Commissioner.

8. From the Coroner's report it appears, that the number of Inquests held during the year
1855..... 87
1856..... 169
1856, is nearly double that of those of the year preceding. *Dr. Urquhart* attributes this increase mainly to the greater activity of the Police in bringing cases to his notice. The Government would wish to have a comparative statement in future years of Coroner's Inquests; such as the one appended to the Bombay Police report for 1856.

9. The Coroner reports that in every case (with the exception of one or two Inquests on people drowned) a *post mortem* examination was made by the Surgeon of the District. *Dr.*

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* Published separately as Selections from the Records of Government.

Urquhart will be desired to consider whether this course is necessary. There must be numerous cases where the immediate cause of death is so palpable that a *post mortem* examination cannot be reasonably called for; where, for instance a man breaks his neck from a fall, is murdered by or commit suicide with a knife or other external agent, is crushed in the falling in of a house and the like. To call for a *post mortem* examination in such instances appears to be needlessly throwing a very heavy amount of labor on Officers already laboriously engaged. The body should not be opened except in cases where the Coroner really deems strong suspicion of poisoning to exist, or when the cause of death could not be decisively ascertained unless the body was opened.

10. "*Drowning in wells and tanks.*" Fifty-three Inquests were held under this head. *Dr. Urquhart* notes the generally 'insecure state of the Madras wells,' and suggests that all wells should have parapets erected around them, and the owners be compelled to keep the same in proper order. The Commissioner (para. 80) states that "the attention of the Municipal Board has been directed to the subject, and as to the *public* wells, they have all been made secure by the erection of parapets at the expense of Government."

11. The Government remark that by Act XIV of 1856, Section LXXII, "all public tanks, reservoirs, cisterns, wells," &c., are vested in the Municipal Commissioners who are bound to maintain them. The Government therefore can be at no further expense on that score. In regard to other tanks and wells, however, the Commissioners have no authority except (Section XC) in the vicinity of streets. They have no power to call upon owners of wells situated in gardens and compounds to repair or enclose them. It should be ascertained therefore from the Coroner to what extent life might have been preserved during the past year had the authority of the Commissioners extended to such private tanks and wells. With this information before them, Government will be prepared to act in the matter.

12. *Colonel Boulderson* will attend to what is said by *Dr. Urquhart* as to the dangerous practice of young boys bathing in the surf.

13. The Coroner adverts finally to the prevalence of what he terms "Infanticide," but the Government doubt whether he is correct in applying that designation to the whole of the cases he mentions. It appears that sixteen bodies of infants and premature children were found by the Police; some lying in drains and some in the public roads. Inquest was held in six cases only and even in these, decomposition had advanced so far as to render it impossible for the Medical witness to arrive at any conclusion as to the cause of death. Many of these children therefore may have been born dead or have died shortly after birth, and the object of placing the bodies secretly in a drain, as suggested by the Coroner himself as attributable to the extreme poverty of the parents, may with more probability be ascribed to the children being the fruits of an illicit intercourse. In *some* instances too, as may be gathered from the Coroner's concluding remarks, the bodies have been carried off from cemeteries by Jackalls.

14. *Colonel Boulderson* has added nothing himself to the observations of the Coroner, but the subject is one deserving full investigation and enquiry on his part.

15. Resolved that the Commissioner's report and its accompaniments be printed with the foregoing remarks.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

1	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"		
2	"	1	1	"	"	"	"	"		2
"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"		"
"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"		"
82	"	"	45	"	1	2	"	81		129
1	"	"	"	"	"	1	"	"		1
								"	"	1
1	"	"	"	"	"	1	"	"		13
1	"	"	"	"	"	13				
4	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	5		5
2,138	1	49	403	66	203	8825	11	10,350		20,509

I. Macaulay
Commissioner of Police

Music or beating of Tom Tom without permission	1758	"	"	"	"	"	2647	"	666	3313	2423	"	"	"	"	6	3180	"	976	4162
Nuisance	901	"	"	"	"	12	818	5	131	966	910	"	"	"	"	24	750	9	215	978
Neglect of duty	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	16	"	"	"	"	"	18	"	14	32
Obstructing the Road	21	"	"	"	"	"	14	"	4	18	3	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	5	5
Overloading Boats	3	"	1	2	1	"	"	"	"	4	3	"	1	2	"	"	"	"	"	3
Obtaining under false pretences	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	2	"	"	"	"	"	2	"	1	3
Purchasing Regimental Cloathing &c Necessaries	1	"	1	"	"	"	"	"	"	1	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Poisoning Cattle	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	67	"	"	"	"	"	80	"	44	124
Riotous Behaviour	46	"	"	20	"	10	"	"	25	55	33	"	"	8	"	5	3	"	28	41
Refusing to work, Neglect of duty, and disobedience of Orders	37	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	40	40	67	"	"	"	"	"	7	"	65	72
Refusing to maintain Wife and Children	5	"	"	"	34	"	"	"	16	50	12	"	"	"	49	"	"	"	19	68
Refusal of Duty	"	"	2	4	"	"	"	"	6	12	"	"	"	3	4	"	"	"	6	13
Recovery	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	1	"	"	"	5	"	"	"	"	5
Revolt	1	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	1	1	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Refusing to pay Wages (Seamen)	1	"	"	"	1	"	"	"	"	1	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Refusing to join the Ship to which he is bound by the Articles	936	"	"	"	580	"	"	"	633	1213	720	"	"	"	488	"	"	"	390	878
Simple Larceny	26	"	"	"	"	"	4	"	32	36	18	"	"	"	"	"	11	"	20	31
Snatching away by force, or taking forcible possession	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	1	"	"	1	"	"	"	"	"	1
Subtle Craft or Cheat	1	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	2	4	"	2	"	"	"	"	"	4	6
Stealing from the person	2	"	"	2	"	"	"	"	2	3	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Swindling, Cheating or Fraud	2	"	"	1	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Secreting themselves on Board the Ship without the Consent of the Master or Mate or Consignee of the Ship	1	"	"	"	"	"	2	"	"	2	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Shooting, Cutting or Wounding with intent to Murder	3	"	1	1	"	"	"	"	"	2	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Taking away or obtaining by undue means	225	"	"	130	"	28	3	"	48	309	537	"	"	223	"	83	4	"	455	765
Threatening to Assault or using threatening language	36	"	"	"	"	"	2	"	26	28	23	"	"	"	"	"	1	"	33	34
Trespass	176	"	"	"	"	"	90	"	128	218	209	"	"	1	"	"	114	"	241	356
Using indecent language	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	49	"	"	1	"	"	32	"	24	77
Undermanning Boats	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	1	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	5	5
Uttering	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	2	"	1	1	"	"	"	"	"	2
Uttering Forged Documents	3	"	"	1	2	"	"	"	1	1	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Uttering False Coin	1	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	82	"	"	45	"	1	2	"	81	129
Vagrants	154	"	"	145	"	6	"	"	79	230	1	"	"	"	"	"	1	"	"	1
Violation of Duty as Police Officer	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"										
Offences Committed under the Conservancy Act No. 14 of 1856																				
Allowing Sewerage to run on the Public Road	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	1	"	"	"	"	"	1	"	"	1
Slaughtering Cattle — without Licence	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	1	"	"	"	"	"	13	"	"	13
Throwing filth on the Public Road	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	4	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	5	5
	11896	1	15	391	700	107	9045	18	8249	18526	12138	1	49	403	667	203	8825	11	14350	20809

Madras Police
Commissioner's Office
19th October 1857

Commissioner of Police

General Comparative Statement of Cases Summarily disposed of by the Magistrates and those Committed for Trial to the Criminal Quarterly Sessions in Her Majesty's Supreme Court of Judicature at Madras from the Royapett and Town Police Courts during the Years 1855 and 1856

Charges	1855										1856									
	Number of Cases	Number of Persons Convicted & Bailed	Number of Persons Bailed for trial	Number of Persons Convicted & fined	Number Convicted and Imprisoned	Number of Persons Flogged	Number of Persons Fined	Number of Persons discharged from the Service	Number of Persons acquitted or discharged	Total Number of Persons	Number of Cases	Number of Persons Convicted & Bailed	Number of Persons Convicted & Died	Number of Persons Transported	Number of Persons Sentenced to hard Labor	Number of Persons Convicted and Imprisoned	Number of Persons Flogged	Number of Persons Fined	No. of Persons discharged from the Service	Number of Persons acquitted or discharged	Total Number of Persons
Assault with intent to Kill or do some grievous bodily harm	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	3	"		1	"	"	"	"	"	3
Aggravated Assaults	5	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	3	"			"	"	"	3	"	4
Assaults	2767	"	"	"	1	1	1066	"	3873	4947	3349	"	"	4	10	6	1125	"	4752	5877
Assaulting Police Officers	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	13	"	"	1	"	"	7	"	6	14
Attempting to Steal or Suspected of Stealing	104	"	"	8	"	"	"	"	132	140	85	"	"	5	"	1	"	"	133	139
Aiding and Abetting in Assault Cases	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	2	"	"	"	"	"	2	"	"	2
Abuse	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	4	"	"	"	"	"	4	"	5	9
Allowing Prisoners to Escape	9	"	"	"	"	"	7	1	1	9	9	"	"	"	"	"	4	"	5	9
Breach of the Peace	2177	"	"	"	"	"	3352	"	1158	4510	2094	"	"	1	"	4	2817	"	1359	4181
Breach of the Police Regulation No. 4 vending Liquor or Toddy without license and Smuggling under Act XIX of 1852	24	"	"	"	"	"	21	"	12	33	14	"	"	"	"	"	5	"	12	17
Breach of Police Regulation No. 6 using false Weights and Measures	16	"	"	"	"	"	4	"	18	22	33	"	"	"	"	1	27	"	22	49
Breach of Police Regulation No. 10 Furious and Careless Riding and Driving	103	"	"	"	"	"	97	"	50	147	157	"	"	"	"	7	173	"	118	298
Breach of Madras Railway Act No. 18 of 1854	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	1	"	"	"	"	"	9	"	"	9
Breach of Trust	41	"	"	4	1	"	"	"	33	38	23	"	"	1	2	"	"	"	27	30
Burglary	3	"	"	2	"	"	"	"	"	3	6	"	"	3	3	"	"	"	"	1
Bigamy	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	1	"	"	1	"	"	"	"	"	"
Breach of the Provisions of Act IV of 1842	6	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Cumpiing	5	"	"	8	"	4	1	"	17	31	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	8	9
Conspiracy	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	1	9	7	"	"	"	1	"	"	"	2	6
Corruption	23	"	"	5	"	5	4	2	13	29	11	"	"	4	"	"	"	2	5	16
Continued Willful Disobedience to lawful Commands	23	"	"	"	61	"	"	"	"	61	33	"	"	"	7	"	22	"	8	90
Continued Willful Neglect of Duty	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	2	"	"	"	"	6	"	"	"	3
Combining to disobey lawful Commands and continued disobedience	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	1	"	"	"	"	3	"	"	"	3
Cutting and Wounding with intent to Murder	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	3	"	"	1	"	"	"	"	2	3
Carnal knowledge of a Girl under the age of 10 Years	1	"	1	"	"	"	"	"	1	1	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Concealing the birth of a Child	1	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	1	1	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Desertion	119	"	"	20	12	12	1	"	111	156	155	"	"	30	14	30	"	"	189	263
Driving without or insufficient Light	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	27	"	"	"	"	"	13	"	18	31
Driving a Elephant or Camel without permission	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	1	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	1	1
Drunkenness	23	"	"	"	"	"	18	5	3	26	38	"	"	"	"	"	26	1	16	43
Disobedience	3	"	"	"	"	"	1	"	2	3	6	"	"	"	"	"	3	"	4	7
Detaining Wages of Seamen	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	1	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	1	1
Drawing Lotteries not Authorized by Government in Contravention of Act V of 1844 Section II	5	"	"	"	"	"	9	"	1	10	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Embezzlement	6	"	"	2	4	"	"	"	6	12	4	"	"	1	14	"	"	"	1	16
Enticing away Women or Girls under 16 Years of Age	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	3	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	2	4
Escaping from legal Confinement	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	1	"	"	2	"	"	"	"	"	2
Forgery	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	2	"	"	1	1	"	"	"	"	2
Fraud Cheat or Swindling	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	2	"	"	1	1	"	"	"	"	2
Gang Robery	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	9	"	"	2	"	"	"	"	"	2
Gambling	17	"	"	"	"	"	22	"	7	29	29	"	15	"	"	"	"	"	12	14
Having in Possession, purchasing or Receiving Stolen Property	115	"	"	2	"	1	8	"	160	171	69	"	"	4	"	"	36	"	47	87
Insubordination Seamen	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	1	"	"	"	"	"	1	"	101	102
Injuring Trees public Property &c	22	"	"	3	"	"	22	"	27	52	33	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	1	1
Ill treating Cattle	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	1	"	"	1	"	"	"	"	"	"
Illusage	1	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	1	1	1	"	"	"	"	"	22	"	28	57
Keeping a Gambling House	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	4	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	1	1
Kidnapping or Stealing Children under the age of 10 Years	2	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	2	2	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Larceny	47	"	7	28	21	"	1	1	11	50	47	"	17	"	"	"	"	"	5	5

Undermanning [illegible] Boat &c
Uttering
Uttering Forged Documents
Uttering False Coin
Vagrants
Violation of Duty as Police Officer

Offences Committed under
the
Conservancy Act No. 14 of 1856.

Allowing Sewerage, to run on the Public Road
Slaughtering Cattle — without Licence
Throwing filth on the Public Road

16

Madras Police
Commissioner's Office
19th October 1857.

3

To the Commissioner of Police
" 1st Division
" Coroner [illegible] Parker
" Municipal Commissioners
" Capt. Orme Smith Inspecting Police & Dist. Superintendent
" Lieut. [illegible] Police & Dist. Superintendent

Cir 16 Nov
R 23 "

the object of placing the bodies
secretly in a drain ~~may be traced~~
~~when~~, as suggested by the Coroners
as attributable
himself, to the extreme poverty
of the parents ~~or~~, ~~quarrelsome~~ may with more
be ascribed
probability, to the children being
the fruits of an illicit intercourse.
In some instances too, as may be
gathered from the Coroner's con-
cluding remarks, the bodies have
been carried off from ~~cemeteries~~
cemeteries
by jackalls.

14 - Col Monkleton has added no-
-thing himself to the observations
of the Coroner, but the subject is
one deserving the fullest investiga-
-tion & enquiry on his part. If
he is finally led to the conclusion
that parents expose the dead bodies
of their infants, in any cases,
from their inability to afford them
decent burial; he is authorised to
issue the proclamation ~~&c~~ suggested
by Capt Orme Smith, viz, that the Police
will in such instances meet the
expenditure.

15. Resolved that the Commissioner's
Report & its accompaniments be
~~published~~ respectfully, with the foregoing remarks.

D. S. C. 12/11/57.

Undermanning / Bodies of
Uttering
Uttering Forged Documents
Uttering False Coin
Vagrants
Violation of Duty as Police Officer

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17

Madras Police
Commissioner's Office
19th October 1857.

Private

My dear Major

The Chief Secretary has
made some remarks regarding
the manning of some of our
Police Outposts, which induces
me to ask you to allow my
Outposts, such as will be likely
to remain, as under that being
strengthened as circumstances
for continued which I mean
shortly to write to Colonel
H. H. Thompson which will be kept
to the Beats with you kindly to
the Office. Should anything
happen that you should
require anything more
you kindly bring under
my notice

Yours truly
J. Maclean

Judicial Dept

No 15514

Ex. Co. 26 November 1857.

Read the following letter from the Commissioner of Police. } Referred to No 142 Dy 19th Dec 1857.

Col Boulderson forwards the Police Report for 1856, in compliance with the orders of Govt contained in Ex. Co. No 386 of the 2d April last. Twelve tabular statements accompany the Commissioner's letter. A report from the Coroner and a 'Statement of Mortality' are also appended.

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3. As the new Police Act has repealed a number of confused "Rules, "Ordinances and Regulations" the Govt expect that the Statements of

Para 14

J

Abstract of Statements of Cases Committed from the Town of Police to the Criminal Sessions during the Year 1856.

Ans. 26 Nov 1857

Ex. Co. 26 Nov 1857

for the present year will be proportionally simplified.

They think too, that except in cases where crimes present a very serious & unusual character — such as the Nun-gum-tauk-kum gang robbery, the details may be materially abridged if not omitted altogether.

Para 33.

The extraordinary extent to which the Commissioner has entered into the particulars of each charge has no doubt tended to delay the determination of his labors.

4- In Para 13 the Commissioner alludes to the countenance & pilfering from cargoes on the part of the Boatmen, and shews that he despairs of putting a stop to the practice "until an "efficient Marine Police is estab-"lished, to watch & control the "Boatmen, while plying between "the Beach & the Ships in the road-"stead". The Govt remark that the project of organising such a Force has long been advocated by

Ext. L. No 129
of 31st March/57

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5- In the meanwhile the Govt do not find that the measure suggested by Mr Ellert the late Supt of Police (vide Report for 1855/57, "raising up that portion of the "Beach on wh Cargo is generally "placed for the purposes of Separ-"ation & Importation". Col Boulderson's attention was called to his suggestion in Ext. L. No 650 of 18th June/56 and he was requested to report on it after communication with the Collector of Sea Customs & the Marine Board. The Govt under-stand that no small portion of the pilfering complained of

takes place in the loading & unloading of boats.

6. Para 78 affords an illustration of the benefits of the Monegar Choultry. No less than 113 paupers in the last stage of destitution and 127 Idiots were found during the past year in the streets by the Police, and remitted to that Asylum. The Govt will bring these prominent facts to the notice of the G. G. in C. when returning their application for an extension of aid to the Choultry.

7. Para 79. Mortuary Returns. Col Bouldeson will scrutinize these returns in his function of Municipal Commissioner.

8. From the Coroner's report it appears, that the number of Inquests held during the year 56 is nearly double that of those of the year preceding. Dr Urquhart attributes his increase mainly to the greater activity of the Police in bringing cases to his notice. The Govt wd wish to have a corresponding statement in future years of

Mun. L. No 1286
D/11 = Sept/57

55/87
56/169.

Coroner's Inquests; such as be one appended to the Bombay Police Report for 1856.

9. The Coroner reports that in one case (with the exception of one or two Inquests on people drowned) a post mortem examn was made by the Surgeon of the District. Dr Urquhart will be desired to consider whether this course is necessary. There must be numerous cases where the immediate cause of death is so palpable that a post mortem examn cannot be reasonably called for; where, for instance a man breaks his neck from a fall, is murdered by or commits suicide with a knife or other external agent, is crushed in the falling in of a house and the like. To call for a post mortem examn in such instances appears needlessly to throw, a very heavy amount of labour on officers already laboriously engaged. The body should not be opened except in cases where the Coroner really deems strong suspicion of poisoning to exist — or when the cause of death could not be discovered by ascertainment

10. "Drowning in wells & tanks" Fifty

unless the body were opened -

three inquests were held under his head. Dr Urquhart notes he generally "insecure state of the Madras wells", and suggests that all wells &c have parapets erected around them, and the owners be compelled to keep the same in proper order. The Commissioners [Para 80] states that "the attention "of the Municipal Bd has been drawn "both to be unfit, and as to the Public "Wells, they have all been made se- "cure by the erection of parapets "at the expense of Govt"

11. The Govt remark that by Act XIV of 1856. Sect LXXII "all "public tanks, reservoirs, cisterns, wells" &c are vested in the Munici- -cipal Commissioners who are bound to maintain them. The Govt therefore can be at no further expense on that score. In regard to other tanks & wells, however, the Com- -missioners have no authority ex- -cept (Sect XC) in the vicinity of streets. They have no power to call upon owners of situated wells lying in gardens & compounds to repair or enclose them. It should be ascertained therefore from the Coroner

to what extent life might have been preserved during the last year had the authority of the Commissi- -oners extended to such private tanks & wells. With this informa- -tion before them, Govt will be prepared to ~~take action~~ act in the matter.

12. Col Balderston will attend to what is said by Dr Urquhart as to the dangerous practice of young boys bathing in the same.

13. The Coroner adverts finally to the prevalence of what he terms "In- -fanticide" but he doubts ~~considers~~ whether he is correct ~~he is not~~ justified in applying that designation to the whole, or any, of the cases he mentions. It appears that sixteen bodies of infants & premature children were found by the Police, some lying in drains & some in the public roads. Inquest was held in six cases only and even in these, decomposition had advanced so far as to render it impossible for the Medical witness to arrive at any conclusion as to the cause of death. Many of these children therefore may have been born dead or have died shortly after birth, and

the object of placing the bodies
secretly in a drain ~~must be based~~
~~upon~~, as suggested by the Coroner
as attributable
himself, to the extreme poverty
of the parents ~~or~~, ~~unwillingness~~ may with more
be ascribed
probability, to the children being
the fruits of an illicit intercourse.
In some instances too, as may be
gathered from the Coroner's con-
cluding remarks, the bodies have
cemeteries
been carried off from ~~cemeteries~~
by jackalls.

14 - Col Bunbeston has added no-
-thing himself to the observations
of the Coroner, but the subject is
one deserving the fullest investiga-
-tion & enquiry on his part. If
he is finally led to the conclusion
that parents expose the dead bodies
of their infants, in any cases,
from sheer inability to afford them
decent burial; he is authorised to
issue the proclamation the Magis-
-trate suggests, viz, that the Police
will in such instances meet the
expenditure.

15 - Resolved that the Commissioners
Report & its accompaniments be
~~submitted~~ rejected, with the foregoing remarks.

D. F. C 12/11/57.

To the Commissioners of Police
" Inspector
" Coroner of Bazar
" Municipal Commissioners
" Capt Smith
" Capt Pratt
" Dept Mr Colvin
" Dept Mr Cockburn
" Secretaries

C.P. April 1857 No 3

Judicial 1857 Depart.

Box 10

No 1554

Extract Mins: of Coms

2/26 November/57.

Ex. No 60 of 1858.
H. Com. 4th Army 1858 No 11
Ex. No 1000/58.
Ex. No 1155/58.

Passing orders on the Police Report for 1850.

21-6-58

13 & 14